



# News Release

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## **Former NASA Contractor Sentenced**

On February 1, 2000, Robert M. Silver, former President of Silver Sales, Inc. (SSI), Calabasas, CA, was sentenced in U.S. District Court, Los Angeles, CA, to 33 months incarceration, 3 years supervised release, restitution to the Government in the amount of \$148,088.93, and ordered to pay a \$50 special assessment. Silver had previously pled guilty to a two count information in violation of the False Claims Act. Silver was immediately remanded to the custody of the U.S. Marshals to begin serving his sentence.

An investigation disclosed that Silver, who had been previously suspended and debarred from conducting business with the Government, submitted false claims to the Defense Supply Center (DSC), Richmond, VA, misrepresenting the manufacturer and quality of the chemical products supplied on DSC contracts. NASA and other Government agencies purchased chemicals from the DSC. NASA used one of SSI's non-approved chemicals to control humidity while testing engines which were destined for the NASA Orbiter.

The investigation was conducted by Special Agents of the NASA Office of Inspector General Office of Criminal Investigations, the Defense Criminal Investigative Service, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The prosecution was handled by Assistant United States Attorney Edward Moreton, Central District of California, Los Angeles, CA..

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